

GROWING GIFTS

STUDY DAYS - SPRING 2012

Saturday 3rd March

Wednesday 7th March

Led by The Venerable Dr Brian Russell

Who is Jesus Christ for us today?



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This day will give us a chance to think about central issues in our Christian belief and to do this with the world of today in mind.

We shall be exploring how Jesus is active and present in ways that can meet us and speak to us today. This may ask new things of us so that we need to be changing in order to deepen our relationship to God. We hope the day will help us to strengthen and deepen how we live out our faith and follow Jesus in our daily lives with greater confidence.

In approaching the question, we will look together at some key themes about Jesus in the bible and in the Christian Creed and ask how these insights help us to look at how we live out our Christian discipleship today. For example, in today's world we have been influenced by ideas about what it is to be human and the significance of being both a healthy individual and someone who grows and rests in relationships and in communities.

We will look in depth together at three significant bible passages from the Gospels about the risen Jesus, which will help us to consider pointers like:

- **how Jesus brings into action all that God is and does**
- **how Jesus enters into our human lives and communities as one who is alongside us today**
- **how Jesus in the Holy Spirit invites us into a deeper relationship to God who is the Holy Trinity**

Leader: Brian Russell will be our guide for the day. Brian has been a parish priest, a teacher and trainer of lay people and clergy, and is now the Archdeacon of Aston in our diocese. Brian regularly preaches and visits the parishes and also continues to teach for the diocese and for Queen's through the Learning for Discipleship courses.

As in past years, the day is divided into three main sessions as described above and there will be group work during the day led by experienced group leaders.

These Study Days have always proved very popular and booking is essential. We are offering the day twice to give a choice of days and places. The programme will run from 9.30am - approx. 3.15pm. The venues are :

- Saturday 3rd March at The Trinity Centre, Church Hill, Mill Street, Sutton Coldfield B72 1SD
- Wednesday 7th March at The St Luke's Church Centre,
- Great Colmore Street, Lee Bank, Birmingham B15 2AT

We will send you a map if required when we confirm your booking. **Please bring A BIBLE, a notebook and a packed lunch** (tea and coffee will be available). We have chosen the venues with care as March can be a chilly time of the year. Also both venues are easy to reach by public transport. (Parking is limited).

The enrolment fee is £15.00 per person. This covers the costs of publicity and running the day. In most cases your church will be able to pay the fee for you. Please ask the clergy to contact us if this

presents any difficulty. (If your church doesn't have an Incumbent at present, please talk to your churchwarden).

GROWING GIFTS: Do you enjoy the Growing Gifts days? Would you like to be involved in the planning and running of the days as part of a group? We are looking for new people to join us and would be delighted to hear from you. Do talk to one of the planning group if you would like to know more.

Programme for *Growing Gifts* 2012

SUMMER EXPLORING PRAYER - dates to be confirmed shortly.

AUTUMN PRACTICAL WORKSHOPS will be offered at two venues in the diocese. Details to follow later in the year.

For further information, or if you know of anyone who would like a copy of this brochure please contact :

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